

RFRI CONDUCTS MONTHLY SEMINAR

Rain Forest Research Institute, Jorhat (Assam) conducted Monthly Seminar on the topic, '*Scope of collaboration of NABARD and RFRI during 2019-20 and beyond*' on 9th April, 2019. The speaker of this month Seminar was Shri K. Vaiphei, DDM, NABARD, Jorhat & Majuli (Assam).

Dr. R. S. C. Jayaraj, Director, RFRI welcomed the speaker with traditional *Phulam Gamosa*. He briefly spoke about the activities of RFRI and sought the help and cooperation of NABARD.

Shri Vaiphei started his presentation with a brief history of NABARD and its activities. NABARD was set up on 12 July, 1982 as Apex Institution for Agriculture and Rural Development by an Act of Parliament to facilitate integrated Development of rural areas and also to address needs for working capital and investment credit for both on farm and off farm activities in rural areas. He informed that NABARD is India's largest development financial institution.

He presented the Policy Guidelines for Development and Financing of Bamboo Value Chain of NABARD. Under this, he presented the Objectives of the Policy, Promotional activities of cultivation of bamboo by farmers, Promotion of value chain activities for bamboo, Development and financing of bamboo related marketing infrastructure, Production of value added bamboo products, etc. He appealed to RFRI to take advantage of various policies on Bamboo.

He also spoke about the Operational Guidelines for the Climate Change Fund (CCF) of NABARD where there is great scope for future collaboration and getting funds to work in the areas of Climate Change.

He also informed that NABARD has funds as Grant Assistance to support Seminar/Conference/Workshop/ Symposium/ Round Table Discussion. Since RFRI, being research and development Institute, may seek such assistance in future.

He also presented Revised Operational Guidelines of Farm Sector Promotion Fund.

Detailed discussion took place after the presentations. All the Scientists and other research workers took part in the discussion. Shri Vaiphei was apprised about two projects of RFRI submitted to NABARD for financial assistance. He assured for its grant.

Detailed discussion of different areas of cooperation with NABARD such as bamboo, lac, creation of Bamboo Bazaar at RFRI, vermicomposting, agar cultivation and artificial inoculation, holding seminar on Agar with financial assistance of NABARD were held.

Shri R. K. Kalita, Training Coordinator, RFRI, Jorhat offered vote of thanks.

RFRI Conducts Monthly Seminar in April 2019

